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COMMONWEALTH OF VIRGINIA

STATE CORPORATION COMMISSION

AT RICHMOND, JULY 13, 2001

REQUEST OF

APPALACHIAN POWER COMPANY

d/b/a

AMERICAN ELECTRIC POWER

CASE NO. PUE010368

For additional time to comply with
the Rules Governing Retail Access
to Competitive Energy Services

ORDER PERMITTING RESPONSES TO REQUEST

On June 19, 2001, the State Corporation Commission ("Commission") entered an order in Case No. PUE010013 adopting Rules Governing Retail Access to Competitive Energy Services ("Retail Access Rules"), 20 VAC 5-312-10 et seq., effective August 1, 2001, to be applicable to the implementation of full or phased-in retail access to competitive energy services in the service territory of each local distribution company.

In adopting the Retail Access Rules, the Commission noted that some parties may require additional time to comply with certain provisions. We therefore directed any parties needing additional time to comply with certain of the Retail Access Rules to submit requests in writing to the Commission on or before July 9, 2001. Each request was required to: (1) identify each rule for which additional time is needed to comply, and the

reasons for such request; and (2) state how much additional time is desired to comply with the specified rules.

On July 9, 2001, Appalachian Power Company d/b/a American Electric Power ("AEP-VA" or the "Company") filed a request for additional time within which the Company must comply with 20 VAC 5-312-90 I 8 f and g, 20 VAC 5-312-90 L, and 20 VAC 5-312-90 M of the Retail Access Rules. In support of its request, AEP-VA states that its customer information system ("CIS") will require significant programming changes to accommodate the requirements of the aforementioned rules to track and state on bills separate previous balances and related items by service provider. AEP-VA argues that these changes will require a programming effort reconfiguring its system, rather than simply an overlay onto the existing CIS, and that there are limited skilled resources available. AEP-VA further notes that its request only involves a fraction of the complete billing and payment requirements. In its request, the Company proposes steps to meeting the provisions of the Retail Access Rules for which it requests an extension. AEP states that it is committed to meeting the outstanding requirements by December 31, 2002, unless mutually agreed with Staff that further deferral will not be detrimental to the Virginia electric market or AEP-VA customers.

NOW UPON CONSIDERATION of the request, we find that this matter should be docketed and that interested parties and Staff

should have the opportunity to respond to AEP-VA's request. We also find that AEP-VA should be permitted to respond to any comments filed in response to their request.

Accordingly, IT IS ORDERED THAT:

(1) This matter shall be docketed as Case No. PUE010368.

(2) AEP-VA shall promptly make a copy of its request available at no charge. Copies of the request may be obtained by contacting counsel for the Company, Anthony Gambardella, Esquire, Woods, Rogers & Hazlegrove, P.L.C., 823 East Main Street, Suite 1200, Richmond, Virginia 23219. The request may also be reviewed during regular business hours at the Commission's Document Control Center, First Floor, Tyler Building, 1300 East Main Street, Richmond, Virginia.

(3) On or before July 27, 2001, interested parties and Staff may file responses to AEP-VA's request with Joel H. Peck, Clerk of the Commission, c/o Document Control Center, P.O. Box 2118, Richmond, Virginia 23218. A copy of a response shall be simultaneously served on counsel for the Company at the address set forth above and on Commission Staff.

(4) On or before August 6, 2001, AEP-VA may reply to any comments filed by interested parties and Commission Staff with the Clerk of the Commission at the address set forth above. A copy of a reply shall be simultaneously served on the interested party and on Commission Staff.

(5) This matter is continued for further orders of the Commission.